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AP Literature & Composition

Composition: Reflection

8 January 2010

Othello Excuse

This assignment was very creative, but the topic fit perfectly. It was not difficult to choose a character for this paper because almost all of the characters in Shakespeare’s play had actions that needed excusing. The most difficult part of writing an excuse was actually maintaining the tone of an excuse. It was easy to put together information from the play and cite specific act, scene, and line numbers. It would have been easier to state reasons as to why each character did what they did as opposed to continually excusing them for their actions. Throughout my two years in Mr. Lane’s AP English class, we have read two of Shakespeare’s plays, *Hamlet* and *Othello*. Prior to *Hamlet*, we read *Romeo and Juliet* in an earlier grade. As I was writing this excuse, I realized that I did not have to search on the internet for analysis and interpretations of *Othello*. I was able to just look back over certain scenes, carefully reread the lines, and understand what was going on. I am not an English expert, but writing this letter has helped me realize that Shakespeare is not as hard as we all think it is, or I have just become much better with my understanding of Shakespeare’s writing. Throughout my course of two years in Mr. Lane’s AP English class, I am not sad to say that this is the last piece of writing that I will compose. In English class alone, I have done more reading and writing than I ever imagined I would. However, as I wrote the *Othello* excuse, and as I sit here and write this reflection, this class has really challenged me to expand my writing skills. Although I am very far from a good writer, I feel that I have drastically improved since the first day I walked into class my junior year. Feeling confident as a writer, understanding literature, and the continuous development of writing skills were all tasks that I accomplished over the past two years, and this will surely benefit me in the near future.